LXIX. *An Account of the Caſe of a young Man ſtupified by the Smoke of Sea-coal*; *by Dr.* Frewen, *of* Suſſex.

Read Jan. 28, 1762. WIlliam Colebrook, a lad of ſeventeen years of age, was left alone to take care of his maſter's veſſel in Rye harbour, the 4th of June 1761; and ſhutting up all cloſe, at nine o'clock in the evening, he laid himſelf down to ſleep in a ſmall cabbin, where there had been a ſea-coal fire, which was not properly extinguiſhed, and, the chimney-place being ſtopped, it ſoon grew full of ſmoke; the effect of which, when the people came on board next morning, proved to have been ſo powerful, as to render him totally deprived of all the ſenſible motions of the body, excepting thoſe of the heart and lungs. The cauſe of this ſtupor being preſently ſuſpected, he was brought out upon the deck, in hopes the freſh air would prove of ſervice; but neither that, nor bleeding, bliſtering, or any other applications they made uſe of, aſſiſted him in the leaſt, under this torpid ſituation. Being brought home to his maſter's houſe about noon, I viſited him, and found him in the ſame ſoporous, apoplectic ſtate, with a feeble pulſe, reſpiration laboured and difficult, a rattling in his throat, and utterly void of all ſenſation. He appeared much like one I had ſeen, who had taken an over-doſe of opium, and died of it.

I ſtrongly recommended the plunging this patient into a cold bath; which being complied with, and done as expeditiouſly as it could be, was attended with

with a ſucceſs even beyond my expectations. Immediately upon the immerſion, (for I ordered but only one plunge, ſuppoſing that a ſecond would prove leſs efficacious, by weakening the power of the firſt) he opened his eyes and mouth, and ſhut them again. He was then inſtantly put to bed naked, between the blankets; and, in a very few minutes time, a very great and univerſal ſweat came on him, which continued for many hours. In the evening, he was firſt perceived to move a little, ſeemingly as if diſturbed by the roughneſs of the blankets ſtimulating his ſkin: a while after, he opened his eyes, and looked a little about him, in a confuſed manner. Some time after that, he grew more ſenſible, and ſpoke; but could only give the ſhort anſwers, Yes and No. His reſpiration was ſtill difficult, and very laborious; but his pulſe was ſtronger and fuller; on which account, I ordered a little blood to be taken away; and he took frequently, a very little at a time, of ſome ſweet oil. For his ordinary drink, I directed boiling water poured upon bread, with a little white wine, lemon juice, and ſugar; of which, at firſt, he took but very little at a time, and afterwards more in quantity, as he could get it down.

The next day, I found him much better, when he ſat up, talked, and drank ſome tea. His breathing was eaſier, but he complained of a ſhort troubleſome cough, and hoarſeneſs; for which I ordered him a ſmooth pectoral linctus: and a lenient purging draught was alſo given him, which had the deſired effect. He continued growing better for a day or two, when I called upon him again, and finding his cough and hoarſeneſs ſtill remain, with a little ſhortneſs of breath,

I directed him pills of Millepedes and Gum Ammoniac made up with Bal. Sulph. to be taken twice a day, drinking warm milk after them; by which means, he grew perfectly well, and went to ſea in twelve days.

LXX. *A Letter from* Benjamin Franklin, *LL. D. and F. R. S. to the Reverend* Thomas Birch, *D. D. and Secretary to the Royal Society.*

SIR, Craven-Street, Feb. 4, 1762.

Read Feb. 4, 1762. MR. Canton did me the favour to ſhew me the ingenious experiments he has deſcribed in the incloſed letter. They ſucceeded perfectly as he has related them; and I imagine, the communication of them muſt be agreeable to the curious in this branch of natural knowledge.

I am,

SIR,

With great reſpect,

Your moſt obedient

and moſt humble ſervant,

B. Franklin.

LXXI. *A*